

IN THE CLAIMS**In the claims:**

1. (currently amended) In a detonating cord reel having a drum wrapped with detonating cord, and end flanges, axially spaced on the drum for containing many layers of cord wrapped on the drum, improvement to such cord comprising:

incremental numerical markings on the cord at predetermined locations along the cord,

said numerical markings providing an accurate visual indication of the number of cord increments remaining on the drum,

whereby the user of cord so marked, and so arranged on the drum, will know in advance of deploying each segments of detonating cord to be used on each particular job / use of the cord, whether the remaining cord wrapped on the drum will satisfy the job / use requirement.

2. (Original) A method of deploying a desired segment of detonating cord from a reel of detonating cord, and comprising:

providing numerical markings at equally spaced increments on the detonating cord,

wrapping the cord around the reel drum such that at least the highest number is readily visible adjacent the free end of the cord, and

inspecting that visible numerical marking to ascertain whether sufficient cord is available on that reel to complete an anticipated deployment.